Jeff Gordon, the youngest racer in the Brickyard 400 field, holds his brick trophy with the permanent one behind him after he won the inaugural event.

As Gordon dro
toward Victory C
from other teams

Phipps builds on lead by winning Grand Am feature

By Tim Haddock
Signal Staff Writer

SAUGUS — Dave Phipps extended his already commanding lead in the NASCAR Grand Am Modified points race by winning the 30-lap feature race Saturday night before 3,957 fans at Saugus Speedway.

Phipps took an early lead starting in the second spot, with Dave Blankenship, who is second in points, 30 behind Phipps, giving him his only competition in the race. With the help of untimely caution flags, Blankenship was able to close the gap on Phipps. But Blankenship never passed Phipps during the race.

"Every one of these guys are hard to pass," Phipps said about Blankenship and Watkinson. "I was going as fast as I could and just inching away."

It was Phipps' fourth feature win of the season.

"My car drove great and my crew worked very hard on the car," Phipps said. "I'm pretty happy about the whole thing."

Doc Werdon spun his car in lap 10, causing a yellow flag to come out. He rolled his car backwards into the pits but later returned to the race.

Dennis Eckert of Canyon Country was black-flagged in lap 13.

Rick Crow of Canyon Country spun his car with seven laps to go. He was in sixth place at the time.

Crow, of Newhall, won the first Grand Am Modified heat race, ahead of Ed Horst and Thad Friday.

Rip Michaels won the second Grand Am Modified heat race.

In other divisions, points leader Sean Woodside of Saugus won the first race of the Sportsman twin 25s, taking the lead from Sean Monroe in lap eight.

Monroe, coming off his first victory last week, got a flat tire and went to the pits after losing his lead. He returned later in the race but was not a factor.

Ron Daniels spoiled Woodside's bid at the daily double by holding him off in the second Sportsman twin 25 race.

Lee Ladd and Tim Huddleston collided in lap 19, causing a yellow flag.

Craig Rayburn finished third in both twin 25 races.

Richie Lloyd, a senior at Glendora High

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